

## Message Text

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65-60

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-09 /128 W

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R 141522Z MAR 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 018

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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PASS STR FOR GUENTHER AND KELLY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: MTN: CHAIRMANSHIP OF TNC GROUPS

1. SUMMARY: SEVEN PLUS SEVEN GROUP TODAY AGREED ON SLATE OF CHAIRMEN FOR SIX MAIN TNC GROUPS. PACKAGE OF THREE SECRETARIAT AND THREE NATIONAL CHAIRMEN MADE POSSIBLE ULTIMATELY BY EC ABANDONING PRINCIPLE OF ALL-SECRETARIAT CHAIRMEN AFTER TWO WEEKS TEDIOUS CONSULTATIONS. SEVEN PLUS SEVEN WILL MEET MARCH 19 TO CONSIDER CHAIRMEN OF SUBGROUPS OF NONTARIFF MEASURES GROUP. END SUMMARY

2. DG LONG TODAY HELD FOURTH SESSION OF SEVEN PLUS SEVEN GROUP IN TWO WEEKS FOR FINAL TRY AT AGREEMENT ON SLATE OF CHAIRMEN FOR MAIN TNC GROUPS. AT OPENING  
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OF MEETING HE REPORTED THAT "WISE MEN'S" CONSULTATION

NOW INDICATED THERE WAS PROBABLE CONSENSUS ON MIXED SLATE OF CHAIRMEN WITH THREE EACH FROM SECRETARIAT AND NATIONAL DELEGATIONS.

3. DISCUSSION REDUCED QUESTION TO TENTATIVE CONSENSUS THAT SECRETARIAT SHOULD CHAIR AGRICULTURE AND NONTARIFF MEASURES GROUPS, NATIONALS SHOULD CHAIR TROPICAL PRODUCTS AND SECTORS GROUPS, AND REMAINING PROBLEM WOULD BE DISTRIBUTION OF TARIFFS AND SAFEGUARDS GROUPS BETWEEN SECRETARIAT AND NATIONAL CHAIRMEN. AFTER BRIEF RECESS EC ANNOUNCED IT WAS DROPPING PREVIOUS ALL-SECRETARIAT POSITION ON CHAIRMANSIPS AND COULD ACCEPT MIXED SLATE, PROVIDED SECRETARIAT WOULD CHAIR TARIFFS GROUP. EC CITED SENSITIVE JURISDICTIONAL PROBLEMS LIKELY TO COME UP IN THAT GROUP, SIMILAR TO THOSE IN AGRICULTURE AND NONTARIFF MEASURES GROUPS, REQUIRING "NEUTRAL CHAIRMAN."

4. SEVERAL OTHER DELS NOTED COLLIANDER OF SWEDEN HAD BEEN CONSENSUS CHOICE FOR TARIFFS GROUP. FINAL COMPROMISE ACHIEVED WITH SUGGESTION THAT COLLIANDER TAKE SAFEGUARDS GROUP. SLATE THEN AGREED BY ALL DELS AS FOLLOWS:

TARIFFS - SECRETARIAT

NONTARIFF MEASURES - SECRETARIAT

AGRICULTURE - SECRETARIAT

TROPICAL PRODUCTS - MARTINEZ (ARGENTINA)

SECTORS - TOMIC (YUGOSLAVIA)

SAFEGUARDS - COLLIANDER (SWEDEN)

ACTUAL ELECTION WILL TAKE PLACE IN EACH OF SIX GROUPS IN DEMOCRATIC FASHION.

5. WHEN QUESTIONED BY SEVERAL DELS LONG RESPONDED THAT ONLY DEPUTY DGS (PATTERSON AND MATHUR) WOULD HANDLE SECRETARIAT CHAIRMANSIPS. WE EXPECT PATTERSON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WILL HANDLE AGRICULTURE GROUP. MARTINEZ REQUESTED TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP CONTINUE MEET THIS WEEK WITH MATHUR AS CHAIRMAN UNTIL IT FINISHES SUBSTANTIVE WORK.

6. DUE TO EC LACK OF POSITION, SEVEN PLUS SEVEN WILL HAVE MEETING AGAIN WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19 TO RESUME DISCUSSION ON NONTARIFF MEASURES SUBGROUP CHAIRMANSIPS. WOLFF

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